

Appln No. 10/735,028
Reply to Office Action dated March 18, 2005

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A ~~portable hand-held multiple-bit drill for imparting a set of linearly aligned work areas of a work piece which work areas are respectively and simultaneously drilled by the respective drill bits,~~ comprising:

a rotary power source communicating with a hand-held body;

a plurality of chucks, each pair of adjacent chucks having a uniform pre-set spacing[[]];

said chucks attached to a housing;

said chucks being simultaneously rotated in a same direction by respective linearly aligned drive gears, said drive gears being rigidly attached to respective shafts driving each respective chuck of said plurality of chucks;

said drive gears being rotated by a centrally located central gear being rigidly attached to a central drive shaft emerging from said housing,

said central gear being driven by said power source;

each said drive gear being [[a]] meshed with at least one idler gear which reverses direction, such that all said drive gears are rotated in a same, pre-determined direction.

2. (Currently amended) The ~~portable hand-held multiple-bit drill for imparting a set of linearly aligned work areas of a work piece which work areas are respectively and simultaneously drilled by the respective drill bits~~ as in Claim 1 wherein said pre-set drill spacing

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between adjacent ~~drill accommodating~~ chucks is accomplished by ~~a plurality of idler gears of predetermined diameters~~ a diameter of said at least one idler gear.

3. (Currently amended) The ~~portable hand-held multiple bit drill for imparting a set of linearly aligned work areas of a work piece which work areas are respectively and simultaneously drilled by the respective drill bits~~ as in Claim 1 wherein said housing includes an elongated U-channel housing having a linearly extending slot and a central hole, wherein further each gear is slidably movable in at least one linear direction within said slot.

4. (Currently amended) The ~~portable hand-held multiple bit drill for imparting a set of linearly aligned work areas of a work piece which work areas are respectively and simultaneously drilled by the respective drill bits~~, as in Claim 3 wherein each said chuck is attached by a respective fastener having an outside diameter permitting said fastener to fit within said central hole.

5. (Currently amended) The ~~portable hand-held multiple bit drill for imparting a set of linearly aligned work areas of a work piece which work areas are respectively and simultaneously drilled by the respective drill bits~~ as in Claim 3 wherein respective fasteners extend from said top flange of said housing, said fasteners attaching to said respective chucks to said housing.

6. (Currently amended) The ~~portable hand-held multiple bit drill for imparting a set of linearly aligned work areas of a work piece which work areas are respectively and~~

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~~simultaneously drilled by the respective drill bits~~ as in Claim 1 wherein each said chuck includes a shaft, a gear mounting flange, and a sleeve.

7. (Currently amended) The ~~portable hand held multiple bit drill for imparting a set of linearly aligned work areas of a work piece which work areas are respectively and simultaneously drilled by the respective drill bits~~ as in Claim 1 wherein said gears have a predetermined small diameter to permit close placement of said a distance between adjacent chucks adjacent to each other is determined by a diameter of said at least one idler gear.

8. (Currently amended). The ~~portable hand held multiple bit drill for imparting a set of linearly aligned work areas of a work piece which work areas are respectively and simultaneously drilled by the respective drill bits~~ as in Claim 1 wherein fasteners lock said idler gears in place adjacent to said chucks.

9. (Currently amended) The ~~portable hand held multiple bit drill for imparting a set of linearly aligned work areas of a work piece which work areas are respectively and simultaneously drilled by the respective drill bits~~ as in Claim 1, wherein chuck centerline spacing is selected by using a predetermined size of each respective idler gear.

10. (Currently amended) The ~~portable hand held multiple bit drill for imparting a set of linearly aligned work areas of a work piece which work areas are respectively and simultaneously drilled by the respective drill bits~~ as in Claim 9, wherein close spacing is

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~~accomplished through the use of small diameter~~ each said drive gear is adapted to receive idler gears having different diameters.

11. (Currently amended) The ~~portable hand held multiple bit drill for imparting a set of linearly aligned work areas of a work piece which work areas are respectively and simultaneously drilled by the respective drill bits as in Claim 1, wherein wide spacing is accomplished through the use of large diameter idler gears~~ at least one of said chucks does not include a drill bit.

12. (Currently amended) The ~~portable hand held multiple bit drill for imparting a set of linearly aligned work areas of a work piece which work areas are respectively and simultaneously drilled by the respective drill bits as in Claim 1~~ wherein fasteners for said chucks are started loosely in desired idler gears and said chucks, said fasteners being inserted through said central hole from the bottom of said housing, wherein respective heads of said fasteners are smaller than said central hole but larger than said linear extending slot, said chucks being positioned in a predetermined order to the left and to the right of said central hole, said central chuck being placed in said central hole and locked in place.

13. (Currently amended) The ~~portable hand held multiple bit drill for imparting a set of linearly aligned work areas of a work piece which work areas are respectively and simultaneously drilled by the respective drill bits as in Claim 1,~~ wherein predetermined chuck spacing is varied from a certain minimum to a wide maximum, in multiples of said minimum

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predetermined spacing, without the necessity of changing idler gears, said spacing being accurately maintained by gear bearings being rigidly mounted in holes to said housing.

14. (Currently amended) The ~~portable hand held multiple bit drill for imparting a set of linearly aligned work areas of a work piece which work areas are respectively and simultaneously drilled by the respective drill bits~~ as in Claim 1, wherein said central drive gear has a drive shaft penetrating said housing, said central drive gear coupling with said drill/driver to insure that all said drive gears drive in the same direction and are synchronous.

15. (Currently amended) The ~~portable hand held multiple bit drill for imparting a set of linearly aligned work areas of a work piece which work areas are respectively and simultaneously drilled by the respective drill bits~~ as in Claim 1 wherein each said chuck is rigidly attached to a square shaft with a spring loaded locking ball, said shaft fitting into respective square holes of said respective drive gears.

16. (Currently amended) The ~~portable hand held multiple bit drill for imparting a set of linearly aligned work areas of a work piece which work areas are respectively and simultaneously drilled by the respective drill bits~~ as in Claim 15 wherein a quick-disconnect/connect is formed.

17. (Currently amended) The ~~portable hand held multiple bit drill for imparting a set of linearly aligned work areas of a work piece which work areas are respectively and simultaneously drilled by the respective drill bits~~ as in Claim 15, wherein a magnet is embedded

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within an end of each blind square hole within a drive gear, retaining each said chuck by magnetic attraction.

18. (Currently amended) ~~The portable hand held multiple bit drill for imparting a set of linearly aligned work areas of a work piece which work areas are respectively and simultaneously drilled by the respective drill bits, as in Claim 1,~~

wherein said drill is a pivotable adjustable multi drill bit drill having drive gears of adjacent drill chucks being pivotably connected by radial arms to a center of a respective rotating idler gear, of a plurality of linearly extending rotating idler gears,

wherein the angle of orientation of the radial arms controls the spacing between the chucks.

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